



JUNIOR NATIONAL YOUNG LEADERS CONFERENCE

FACT SHEET

The Junior National Young Leaders Conference (JrNYLC) is a six-day educational program that strives to help high-achieving middle school students develop their leadership skills. Using U.S. history as a catalyst for their learning experience, JrNYLC participants engage in exciting hands-on activities, as they develop critical thinking, decision-making and communication skills.

EXAMINING LEADERSHIP THROUGHOUT HISTORY

In a unique curriculum that combines independent and group projects, JrNYLC participants gain a better understanding of what it takes to become an effective leader. Built on the theme *The Legacy of American Leadership*, participants are first introduced to important leadership skills and attributes. During small group sessions, students participate in activities designed to help them understand the fundamental aspects of leadership: character, communication, courage, goal-setting, motivation, perseverance, problem-solving and teamwork.

Specially designed site visits to national landmarks are also integrated into the curriculum. Historical sites, such as Colonial Williamsburg, the National Museum of American History, the U.S. Capitol and Washington, D.C.'s monuments and memorials provide an opportunity for JrNYLC participants to explore firsthand the concept of leadership. A private overnight visit to the Maryland Science Center enables students to explore the impact of scientific leadership upon the development of our nation.

THE IMPACT OF LEADERSHIP

Throughout the program, students also examine the impact of leadership during critical periods of American history and the leadership qualities required during these pivotal times. Historical periods studied include Colonial America and The Revolutionary Period; The New Nation; The Civil War and Reconstruction; Modern America and The First Great War; The Great Depression and World War II; The Cold War; The Civil Rights Movement and The Vietnam Conflict; and Globalization and The War on Terrorism.

A culminating Youth Leadership Presentation and an inspiring keynote address close out the week's activities. At the end of the program, JrNYLC participants return to their communities with a greater understanding of the responsibilities of being a leader and with the tools necessary to becoming a better leader themselves.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Background-JrNYLC is sponsored by the Congressional Youth Leadership Council (CYLC), a 501(c)(3) nonprofit, nonpartisan, educational organization founded in 1985 and located in Washington, D.C. The Council is dedicated to fostering and inspiring young people to achieve their full leadership potential. To date, over 100,000 young people have participated in the Council's programs. In support of the Council's mission, over 400 members of the U.S. Congress and 25 embassies representing countries around the world serve on its Honorary Boards. For more information on CYLC and its programs, visit www.cylc.org.

Participants-Middle school students from across the United States will participate in each JrNYLC session. Students are nominated to attend JrNYLC by teachers and other mentors based on their academic excellence and demonstrated leadership.

Funding-JrNYLC is funded through student tuition. As with CYLC's other programs, many conference participants conduct local fundraising with assistance from the Council's Guide to Community Fundraising. The Council also awards scholarships to financially disadvantaged students.